



Seventh Week of Easter

Sunday 17th May - Seventh Sunday of Easter

(Sat) 17:00 - Holy Mass: Sharon Gristock, RIP
 8:00 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Neil Bidder, KC, RIP
 10:00 - Holy Mass: Pro Populo
 11:15 - Holy Mass: Judge Patrick Curran, QC, RIP
 16:00 - Vespers and Benediction

Monday 18th May - St. John I

7:30 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Fell in defence of Poland
 8:30 - Oratory Morning exercises
 09:30 - Holy Mass: Paul Barnes
 17:30 - Oratory Evening exercises

Tuesday 19th May - Ascension Feria

7:30 - Rogation day Mass: Holy Souls/Teresa Jonker, RIP
 8:30 - Oratory Morning exercises
 09:30 - Holy Mass: Anthony O'Keefe, RIP
 17:30 - Oratory Evening exercises

Wednesday 20th May - St. Bernadine of Siena

7:30 - Rogation day Mass: Holy Souls/Deceased Electricians
 19:00 - Holy Mass Wladyslaw & Kornel, RIP

Thursday 21st May - St. Christopher Magallanes

7:30 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Mariangela & Raffele Zurlo, RIP
 8:30 - Oratory Morning exercises
 09:30 - Holy Mass: Paddie Elliott, RIP
 19:00 - Holy Mass: Pro Populo

Friday 22nd May - St. Rita of Cascia

7:30 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Donor's Intention
 8:30 - Oratory Morning exercises
 09:30 - Holy Mass: Angela Bullard, Int
 17:30 - Oratory Evening exercises

Saturday 23rd May- Our Lady's Saturday

08:00 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Paclawski Family, RIP
 16:30 - First Vespers
 17:00 - Holy Mass: Pro Populo

Sunday 24th May - Pentecost

8:00 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Paclawski Family, RIP
 10:00 - Holy Mass: Eduardo Benedito
 11:15 - Holy Mass: Teresa Jonker, RIP
 16:00 - Vespers and Benediction

CONFESSION TIMES

Sundays: 15 minutes before and during all Masses
 Weekdays: 7:15 to 7.30am ; 9:00 to 9:30am

Since the time of St. Philip Neri, the Fathers of the Oratory have made themselves available for Confessions during daily Mass. Outside of these set times, there is a Confessional Bell positioned in between the two Confessional Boxes in the Church. Ring to alert a Priest.

ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

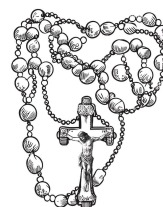


Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9.00-9.30am
 Wednesday 6.00 - 7.00pm

HOLY ROSARY

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday: 5:30pm
 Wednesday: 6:00pm

The community pray the Rosary daily for the intentions of the Parish, for those who are sick and have died recently. If you would like an intention added to the list please let one of the community know.



VENERATION OF THE RELIC OF ST. PHILIP NERI

Friday: After morning Masses
The veneration of the relic of St. Philip Neri is a long-standing Oratory custom. When we pray before his relic, we ask for his intercession and strength to live more faithfully as Catholics.

Pa-ter nos-ter, qui es in cæ-lis : sancti-fi-cé-tur no-men tu-
 um; advé-ni- at regnum tu-um; fi- at vo-lúntas tu-a, sic-
 ut in cæ-lo, et in terra. Panem nostrum co-ti-di-ánum
 da no-bis hó-di-e; et dimítte no-bis dé-bi-ta nostra, sic-ut
 et nos dimít-timus de-bi-tó-ri-bus nostris; et ne nos indú-
 cas in tenta-ti-ó-nem; sed lí-be-ra nos a ma-lo.

On Sunday the 31st May, the Archbishop of Cardiff-Menevia will be conferring the Sacrament of Confirmation during the 10am Mass.

It is the custom that we sing the Our Father in Latin when the Archbishop visits. This is done to show our unity with our Archbishop who is the successor to the Apostles. This is why there is a seventh candle lit near the crucifix on the High Altar. The Archbishop represents the fullness of the Church in a particular place, and the liturgy he celebrates is meant to manifest that communion with the Universal Church.

Starting from this Sunday, we will sing the Pater Noster in Latin so that we can be ready for the visit of his grace. Some of you will happily remember it from when you were younger. The chant is on the left for those who need the words and the tune.

PRAYERS REQUESTED for the SICK

Please join the Cardiff Oratory Fathers and Brothers in praying daily for the sick and those who have care for them.

Patricia Kelly, Sylvia Hole, Bill Jonker, Christine Elsmore, Kenneth Pinder, Terry Hardy, Eileen Sparkes, Ena Gray, Paul Marshall, Angela Bullard, Joan Wheeler, Alan Turner, Dawn, Alun Edwards, Dina Williams, Elaine Molan, Edgar Guerin, Dai Thomas, Marilyn Maunder, Len Reece, Dooley, Sian Haffield, Dianna Ward, Mike Grant, Shirley O'Leary, Victoria Sweeney, A.& N Xavier Philips, Kevin Harris, Kate, Pauline Cook, Daniel Doran, Robert Matthews, Rita Taylor, John C. Keenan, Shirley Thomas, Anne, Daniel, Sarah Caswell, Mary May Cassidy, Rosa Tannorella, Gary Britton, Clare Schwartz, Martin Flynn, Darren, Summer Hutchinson, Johnnie Doherty, Patricia Yarwood, Libby Conway, Summer Arnesen, Diane, Laura, Jane, Lucy Iacobucci, Jason Benedito, Gareth Bowen, Ann Henry, Sarah, Claire Hawkey, Danielle Camilleri, Jane Morris, Jonathan Bowen.

Events this week:

<p>Monday 18th May Tai Chi with Jeanette Parish Hall 11-12:30 Open to all.</p>	<p>No Philosophy Talk this week due to Confirmation classes. The next talk will be on 16th June with the topic of St. Thomas Aquinas.</p>	<p>Wednesday 20th May May Procession at St. Alban's Primary School. 10:30-11:00 More information in the School news.</p>
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Restoration update

You will now see that the windows in the Sacred Heart Chapel have been removed and scaffolding remains in place. Please be conscious that this is now a work place with dangers seen and unseen, and so I would ask that parishioners do not enter this worksite. It is possible to see the image and painting from the gates of the south aisle and the Holy Shroud is visible on the south wall of the Sanctuary. I am deeply grateful to our benefactors for the restoration of these windows which alleviates their inclusion to the overall restoration works of the church.



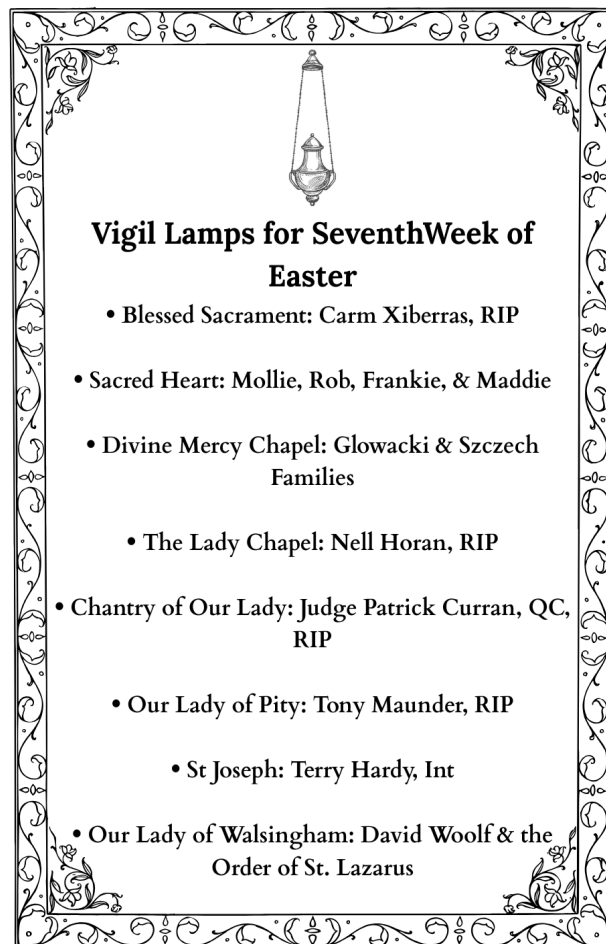
There were recently some important repair works undertaken on the Parish Hall roof following the discovery of a leak which had begun causing water damage to the interior walls of the building. Thankfully, upon inspection, it was found that the problem could be resolved relatively quickly and without the need for major structural work. The necessary repairs were carried out successfully earlier this week, preventing any further damage and ensuring that the hall remains safe and usable for parish activities and gatherings. We are grateful to those who helped arrange and complete the work promptly, allowing the issue to be resolved before more serious problems developed. Some maintenance work was carried out recently on the exterior of the church building. Over a period of time, moisture had begun coming through the sanctuary walls, raising concerns about potential long-term damage to the interior of the church. Following inspection, work was undertaken to remove damaged and weakened mortar from the exterior walls before carefully repointing and rendering the affected areas. These repairs should help prevent further water penetration and protect the fabric of the church for the future. We are grateful that the work was

successfully and with minimal disruption to the normal life and worship of the parish.

Next week's collection for the restoration fund will help cover the costs of these recent repair jobs of the disintegrated lead work on the parish hall roof and the re-pointing of stone work on the side of the church. Like many historic churches, our parish buildings require constant care and maintenance, often at significant expense. These works are essential in preserving our church as a worthy place of worship and ensuring that parish facilities remain safe and usable for all. Every contribution, however small, will greatly assist in meeting these recent costs and supporting the ongoing upkeep of the parish.

A Reminder:

As the Sacred Heart Chapel is currently occupied by the scaffolding. Please do not enter after receiving Holy Communion.



Vigil Lamps for Seventh Week of Easter

- Blessed Sacrament: Carm Xiberras, RIP
- Sacred Heart: Mollie, Rob, Frankie, & Maddie
- Divine Mercy Chapel: Glowacki & Szczech Families
- The Lady Chapel: Nell Horan, RIP
- Chantry of Our Lady: Judge Patrick Curran, QC, RIP
- Our Lady of Pity: Tony Maunder, RIP
- St Joseph: Terry Hardy, Int
- Our Lady of Walsingham: David Woolf & the Order of St. Lazarus

Oratorian Vocation Discernment Day

30th May 2026

Men 18-35 are invited to spend the day at the Cardiff Oratory of St. Philip Neri.

Schedule:

- 8am Mass
- 8:45 Breakfast
- 10:00 Talk "The Oratorian Vocation"
- 11:00 Coffee
- 11:30 Tour of Reliquary & church
- 12:30 Sea wall Walk
- 15:00 Afternoon Tea/Talk
- 16:00 Chant Practice
- 16:30 Vespers
- 17:00 Vigil Mass
- 18:00 Supper
- 19:00 Parish Quiz Night

Oratory House, Cameron Street,
CF24 2NX

To register email
frillytd@cardifforatory.co.uk



CONFIRMATION 2026

On Sunday the 31st May, the Archbishop will visit St. Alban's to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation.

If your child is in years 7/8 and would like to receive this final Sacrament of Initiation please speak to Fr Sebastian M.

"By the Sacrament of Confirmation, the baptized are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed."

(Catechism of the Catholic Church - 1285)

Young Adult Classes:

Next Class - 23rd May at 11am

Adult Classes:

Next Class - 19th May at 7pm


St. Alban's, Swinton Street,
CF24 2NX



On Wednesday, we celebrated the feast of Our Lady of Fatima with the annual torchlight procession out into the streets of Splott. The message of Our Lady of Fatima is ultimately a call to conversion, prayer, repentance, and hope in the mercy of God. Appearing to the three shepherd children in 1917, the Blessed Virgin urged the world to pray the Rosary daily, to offer sacrifices for sinners, and to turn back to God with sincere and faithful hearts. At a time marked by war, suffering, and growing disbelief, the message of Fatima reminded the world that peace comes only through conversion and fidelity to Christ.

There is also a beautiful connection between Fatima and the Ascension of the Lord which was kept on Thursday. We recall the moment Our Lord returns to the glory of heaven, reminding the Church that our true homeland is not on earth but in eternity with God. Fatima echoes this same heavenly perspective. Mary appears from heaven to call her children to lift their eyes above worldly concerns and to live in preparation for eternal life. After the Ascension, the Apostles gathered in prayer with Our Lady as they awaited the coming of the Holy Spirit. In Fatima, Mary once again gathers the faithful to prayer, trust, and renewed devotion to her Son. Let us spend these upcoming days between the Ascension and Pentecost deepening our prayer life and placing our trust in God that we may respond to the graces He gives us.





FEAST OF OUR
GLORIOUS PATRIARCH
**ST. PHILIP
NERI**
26TH MAY

07:30 Holy Mass
09:30 Holy Mass
16:00 Sung Vespers
19:00 Holy Mass - Guest Preacher
Fr. Robert James

Mass setting: *Missa brevis* in C major (Krönungsmesse) - Mozart
Bone Pastor - Tallis
Pangamus Nerio - Sewell
Hymns by Ven. Cesare Baronio & St. John Henry Newman

A small biography of St. Philip Neri

Philip Romolo Neri was born in Florence on July 21st, 1515. Philip was known as “Pippo Buono” - “Good Little Philip” - for his good behavior and jovial spirit. His early spiritual formation came from the Dominicans at San Marco, where he walked among the frescoes of Fra Angelico and was inspired by the memory of the reformer Savonarola. At the age of 18, Philip left Florence forever. His father sent him to live with his father’s cousin, Romolo, a childless merchant, in San Germano. He furthered his formation by frequenting the Benedictine abbey at Monte Cassino. Philip headed for Rome on what would turn out to be a one-way trip. Arriving in 1534, he never looked back.

Philip, moved with compassion and led by the Holy Spirit, sought out the seeds of renewal that the Eternal City held within it. In the evenings, he withdrew to pray in the catacombs of St. Sebastian, one of the burial places of the early Christian martyrs. There, alone with God, he experienced the transforming power of divine love. On the vigil of Pentecost in 1544, while in fervent prayer to the Holy Spirit, Philip was overcome by the force of the Spirit, and he saw a ball of fire enter through his mouth and lodge in his heart. The intensity of this flame of God’s love caused him to cry out, “Enough, Lord, enough! I cannot take any more.” For the rest of his life, a warmth radiated from Philip’s heart, so strong that he was known to go out with his cassock unbuttoned in the middle of winter.

He was not ordained a priest until 1551, at age 36, at the behest of his confessor. Connected with Philip’s love for the Eucharist was his emphasis on the Sacrament of Reconciliation, not only as a remedy for sin and a source of peace, but also as a powerful means for growing in holiness of life. He encouraged frequent confession, through which it becomes ever easier to persevere in conquering vices and in developing virtues. Philip was also a keen observer of human nature. He saw the needs of his age, particularly the moral hazards faced by young men passing their idle time in the piazzas of Rome. He began hosting a daily gathering, not only to keep them occupied but to inspire them to a holy life. As a spiritual father, he shared with them the encounter with the love of God which so inflamed his heart. These informal discussions centred on the Scriptures and the lives of the saints, with the aim of fostering in the young people a desire for prayer, the sacraments, and works of mercy. Philip continued to attract new penitents in his joyful and encouraging way. As the numbers attending the Oratory and seeking spiritual guidance continued to grow, Philip realized that he needed additional help. The Congregation of the Oratory developed based on this need to minister to the lay community in the manner Philip had established. The early community, led by Philip, was a family modeled on the early Christian community, every member participating equally in the benefits and responsibilities of the common life. They did not take vows, but were bound by fraternal charity. The final years of Philip’s life were characterized by several bouts of serious illness which brought him close to death. He still prayed, visited the sick, and of course, continued hearing confessions until the day he died. He celebrated Mass in his private chapel with great devotion. Philip died in the early hours of May 26th, 1595, surrounded by his community whom he blessed as his last act. He was canonized on March 12, 1622 by Pope Gregory XV.





ST ALBAN'S PARISH, CARDIFF

MONEY MATTERS

Our Bank Details:

Name: Oratory of St Philip Neri at Cardiff

Account: 20222572 ~ Sort Code: 52-21-06

NATWEST Bank. Cardiff Branch

Registered Charity: 1170563

Parish Giving

Gift Aid (Green Envelopes): £325.00

Loose: £427.65

Restoration Fund Giving

Gift Aid (Yellow Envelopes): £240.00

Restoration Fund: £160.10

Total

£1,152.75

“Whether you give weekly, monthly, in envelopes, plate, or bank transfer God bless your generosity”

Fr Sebastian M. PP.

Aquinas answers modern questions



What is the merit in driving at the speed limit?

Objection 1. The speed limit is established by human law. But human laws concern external order rather than the interior disposition of virtue. Therefore merely obeying the speed limit does not appear to pertain to moral goodness.

Objection 2. Further, many who drive at the speed limit do so out of fear of penalties or speed cameras rather than from virtue. But an act proceeding from fear of punishment is not especially meritorious.

On the contrary, The Apostle says (Rom. 13:1): “Let every person be subject to the governing authorities.” But traffic laws are established by lawful authority for the common good and safety of persons. Therefore obedience to them may pertain to virtue.

I answer that, The merit of an act depends not only upon the greatness of the deed, but upon the order of the will according to reason and charity. Now the purpose of speed limits is the preservation of safety, order, and the common good upon the roads, lest through recklessness harm come to oneself or to others. Therefore, to drive within the lawful limit out of respect for justice, obedience, and charity toward one's neighbour is an act of virtue. For one may technically obey the limit while driving carelessly, impatiently, or without regard for conditions. Likewise, in some circumstances, even driving at the maximum lawful speed may fail in prudence if conditions render it unsafe.

Reply to Objection 1. Human law, when just, is derived from the natural law and ordered to the common good. Therefore obedience to such laws may itself be virtuous.

Reply to Objection 2. To avoid punishment is a lower motive than charity, yet even fear of penalty may habituate a man to outward discipline. Nevertheless, the fuller merit arises when one obeys not merely from fear, but from justice and care for others.

FINAL OF THE RON LUCKOCK CUP



St. Alban's 2nd XV v Fairwater bulldogs

23RD MAY 2026
CARDIFF ARMS PARK
K:O TBC



The Stolen Crown: Treachery, Deceit and the Death of the Tudor Dynasty may be interesting to Catholics as it explores a moment in English history when questions of monarchy, religion, and legitimacy were deeply intertwined. The transition from the Tudor dynasty to the Stuarts did not happen in a religious vacuum: it came after decades of persecution, exclusion, and political marginalisation of Catholics in England.

One reason the book may resonate with Catholic readers is its treatment of the final years of Elizabeth I. Elizabeth's reign cemented the Protestant settlement in England, and recusant Catholics, those who refused to conform to the establishment of a Protestant national English religion faced fines, imprisonment, and suspicion of treason. The atmosphere surrounding the succession was therefore charged with religious significance. Many Catholics hoped that a new Monarch might soften anti-Catholic policies or even bring some degree of toleration.

The figure of James VI and I is particularly important here. Before he became King of England, some English Catholics believed he might prove more sympathetic than Elizabeth. His mother, Mary, Queen of Scots, had become "a Catholic martyr" figure for some after her execution in 1587. The book's suggestion that James's accession may have involved political manipulation or concealment could therefore interest Catholics because it touches on broader themes of how Protestant power structures preserved themselves at a decisive historical moment.

The book also indirectly raises questions about historical narrative and victors' history. English history writing for centuries was shaped largely by Protestant perspectives, especially regarding the Tudors and the Reformation. Catholics interested in reassessing accepted narratives may find Borman's willingness to challenge orthodox accounts appealing, even if they do not agree with all her conclusions on account of the paucity of sources and absence of theological knowledge.

There is also a wider cultural and emotional dimension. For many Catholics interested in English history, the end of the Tudor era represents not merely a dynastic shift but the consolidation of a growing religious settlement that severed England from its ancient place in the orbit of the Catholic Church.

Saint of the Week



St. Bernardine of Siena (1380–1444) was a Franciscan friar and one of the greatest preachers of fifteenth-century Italy. Born in Massa Marittima in Tuscany, he was orphaned at a young age and raised by relatives. During a plague in Siena, he devoted himself to caring for the sick, an experience that deepened his vocation to religious life. Entering the Franciscan Order, Bernardine became renowned for his powerful preaching, travelling throughout Italy calling people to repentance, reconciliation, and devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus. He popularised the monogram "IHS," *Jesus Hominum Salvator* (Jesus, Saviour of Humanity), often displaying it on a tablet during sermons as a sign of Christ's saving name. A famous quote attributed to the saint is: "The name of Jesus is the glory of preachers, because the shining splendour of that name causes His word to be proclaimed and heard." Bernardine also worked tirelessly to reform society, condemning corruption, gambling, blasphemy, and usury, while encouraging charity, justice, and peace among rival political factions and divided Italian cities. His sermons attracted enormous crowds, and many towns invited him specifically to reconcile bitter civic disputes and restore harmony. Despite periods of ill health, he preached tirelessly until his death in 1444 at L'Aquila. A basilica was built in his honour after his death and his tomb remains an important place of pilgrimage. His body is preserved there in a shrine behind the high altar. He was canonised only six years later, in 1450, by Pope Nicholas V.



School News

20th May - Marian Procession at St. Alban's school.

May has long been cherished in the Church as the month dedicated to Our Lady, a time when the faithful turn with special affection to the Blessed Virgin Mary. As spring flowers bloom, they echo her beauty and purity, making this season a fitting tribute. Devotions such as the May Crownings show our appreciation for what the Blessed Virgin did for us.

Join the school children as they will process around the school grounds and crown Our Lady.

On Wednesday Year 3/4 hosted Ysgol y Berllan Deg from Llanedeyrn as part of the Linking Network project. The children built meaningful connections and learned together through shared, joyful experiences.



Marian Procession
20th May 2026
St. Alban's school
10:30



They learned together in both English and Welsh. Spending time playing games together in the afternoon was a great way for the children to dysgu Cymraeg. Diolch yn fawr to Ysgol y Berllan Deg for coming and hopefully making lasting friendships.

Some of the children have been collaborating with Arts Council of Wales @Arts_Wales_ as part of a Creative Learning experience. Pupils are exploring in their R.E. through film and media, bringing their learning to life in imaginative ways. They made animations and flipbooks to depict scenes from the Old Testament to understand the lives of the Patriarchs, such as Abraham and Moses.



Corpus Christi Procession
4th June

Mass at St. Alban's Church 9:30am

Procession to the school with Benediction in the school yard.

